

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of October 17, 2005 in which claims 1-21 were rejected by the Examiner.

The current invention is based on the idea that for determining the bus width, another indication formed on the card is used, on the basis of which another indication the bus width can be determined. Such an indication is called "indirect indication," because the information of the indication is not directly the bus width. Example of the indirect indication is standard and/or standard version information.

Traditionally the bus width information has been stored on the card. However, this requires register capacity of the card. When indirect indication, e.g. information that is already stored in the card for e.g. other purposes, is used, as in the current invention, memory space of the card can be saved for other purposes.

The Examiner asks clarification for the term "indirect indication." As described above, the indirect indication does not relate to either of the Examiner's alternative conjectures. Indirect indication means that because the card includes by its nature some information (e.g. version), this information is used for determining the bus width. Because of that, there is no need for storing bus width information on the card any more, because that information can be determined indirectly by another information. Please see for example claims 3 and 6.

The Examiner asks further clarification for the term "which indicator is arranged to indirectly indicate" (claim 11, line 6). This term should become clearer when the "indirect indication" is read in light of the above amendment which has been made in response to the Examiner's request. The indicator is the information that is stored in the card and describes something else of the card (e.g. version). Therefore that kind of information is arranged to indirectly indicate the bus width without saying the bus width.

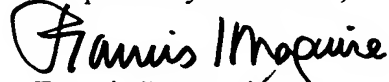
Finally, the Examiner asks clarification for the term “in which peripheral device at least one bus width” (claim 11, line 3, claim 16, lines 3—4). The Applicant is not sure why the Examiner considers this unclear, but what is meant with the term is that there is a defined set of bus widths, at least one of which is arranged to be used in the peripheral device. The determination which is the one bus width to be used is done by means of the indirect indication.

Regarding the novelty rejection, the Examiner refers to SD Memory Card Specifications, Part 1, Physical Layer Specification (version 1.01). This document does not disclose indirect indication as is claimed by the current invention because the document is about direct indication. In the referred document on page 7 (chapter 3.1) a selection of a communication protocol is described, not bus width selection as the Examiner argues. On page 8 the question is about enabling the host to change the bus width after it has read the BUS_WIDTH register which directly indicates card's supported bus widths. The Examiner refers also to page 15, sub-sections 3.3.2 and 3.3.3. On 3.3.2 the host has to read the BUS_WIDTH register which directly indicates the supported bus widths by the card before the usage of SET_BUS_WIDTH. Item 3.3.3 refers to DAT3 pull-up which is used either for detection or the card in the bus or for SPI (Serial Peripheral Interface) mode chip selection, which both are completely different to bus width negotiation.

Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection of amended claims 1-21 as amended, is earnestly requested.

The objections and rejections of the Office Action of October 17, 2005, having been obviated by amendment or shown to be inapplicable, withdrawal thereof is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis J. Maguire". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping "F" and "M".

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